Overview

SIS Assessment is a Web-based application for tracking student tests, and is integrated into the current SIS Web Portal. The application appears in the Application drop-down menu. Permissions for this application are delegated in Control Master. The Assessment application replaces the old ASP pages.

The Assesment application consists of three modules:

- Define Tests
- Define Test Instances
- Test Scores



Define Tests is used to declare information pertaining to tests that are given in each district throughout the state. The grade level of the test, the test type, the normal time this test is given are included in this information, as well as the sub-test linked to each test found in the master test tables.

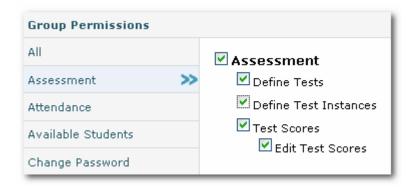
Define Test Instances tracks specific test information such as test date, test language, method, school, and grade level.

Test Scores allows input of scores for each student, which can then be viewed in the Parent/Student Test Score pages.

Permissions

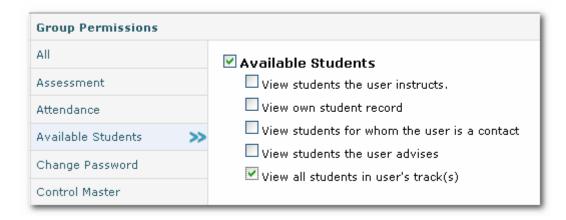
District Staff

Access and permissions for the Assessment application are set up in Control Master (see the Control Master documentation for the basics of creating and editing user groups). Permissions for the application may be added to new or existing groups. The suggestion option would be to create a new user group called "Assessment", add users to it, and assign permissions. A new permission category for the Assessment application has been added to the "Edit Groups" module in Control Master:



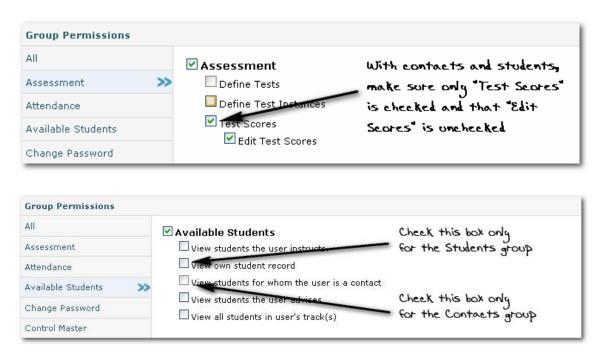
Permissions may be assigned according to the user's needs. If a district has several types of Assessment users needing different permission levels, separate groups should be created for each type of user and permissions assigned accordingly.

Assessment groups will also need Available Students permissions, which can also be assigned according to user type:



Contacts and Students

As with district staff, contacts and students can view student test scores by granting the permissions to their respective groups. Contacts and Student groups should be granted according to the following models:

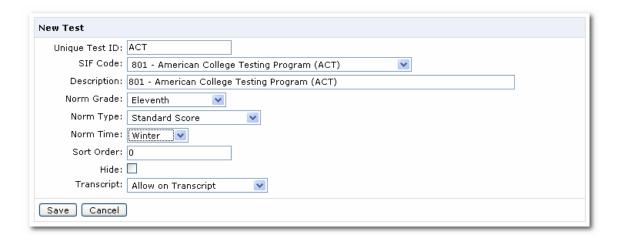


Define Tests

Before test instances can be defined and before student tests can be entered, master tests must be defined.



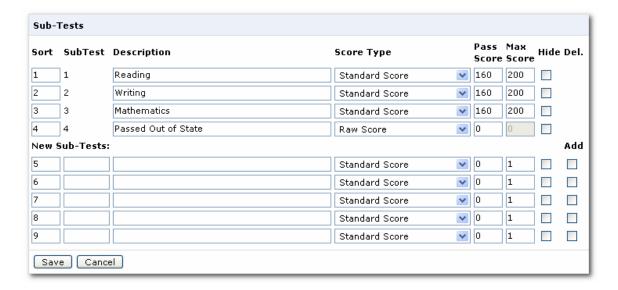
To define a new test, click on the Define Tests icon, then click New. Populate the given fields and save.



Descriptions of Selected Fields

- Unique Test ID- A unique, user enterable master test identification ID (alpha or numeric). Test ID for UBSCT tests must be "UBSCT" or the test will not display on the transcript.
- **SIF Code-** Critical components of each test setup is determined by the SIF code chosen from the drop-down list.
- Norm Type- The normal type of the test
- Sort Order- Sort order for list choices in other areas of Assessment.
- 4 Hide- Checking this box will remove this test from list choices elsewhere in Assessment.

After saving the test, sub-tests can now be defined and saved.



Saved master tests can be edited by clicking the Edit icon.



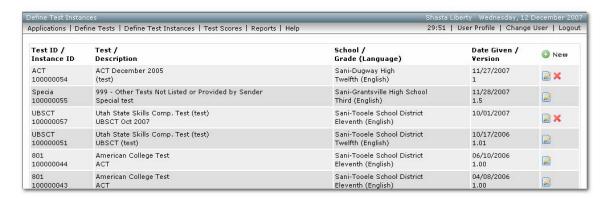
Saved master tests can also be deleted.



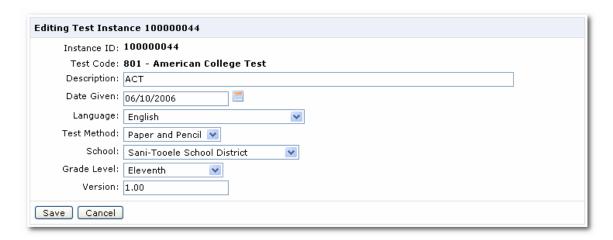
*Note: Tests cannot be deleted if they have test instances and/or scores.

Define Test Instances

To enter test instances, click on the Define Test Instances module and click the Edit icon to the right of a test instance.

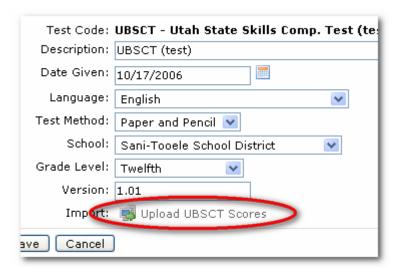


Populate the given fields and save.



UBSCT Mass Import

For UBSCT tests, the option for a mass import appears:



Click on the Upload UBSCT Scores link.

Upload UBSCT Scores		
The specified files must be valid .csv files.		
Select Reading File:		Browse
Select Writing File:		Browse
Select Math File:		Browse
Upload Files Cancel		

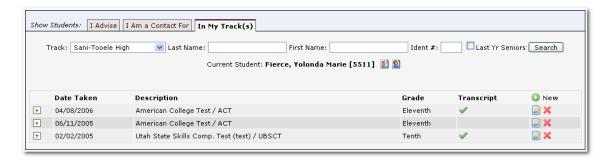
Browse to the location of your UBSCT test scores files and click on Upload Files (see UBSCT Mass Import appendix at the end of this document for details on preparing these files).

Test Scores

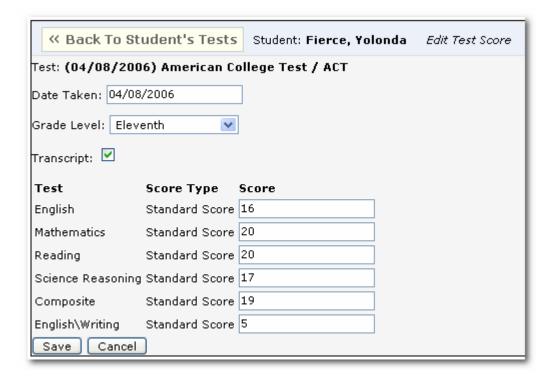
To enter test scores, click on the Test Scores module and search for a student (for the contacts and students group, a drop-down list will appear instead of the search fields).



Once a student is selected, a list of available tests appears (note that master tests with the Hide option checked do not appear in this list).



Enter or edit test scores and save.



APPENDIX A

UBSCT Mass Score Import

The UBSCT Mass Score Import feature of the Assessment application allows users to easily import all scores for a selected test instance with a simple import process, rather than manually entering every score for every student. A Microsoft Excel spreadsheet (XLS) containing scores and demographic information for each student is produced for each testing category and is provided to the district/school. Using the import feature, districts can import this file directly into their database. This process consists of two steps—converting the excel spreadsheets (XLS) to a comma separated value file format (CSV), then uploading the files in the Define Test Instances module.

CHECKING FOR FILE COMPATIBILITY

Before import, certain elements of the files must be checked for accuracy and compatibility. For each test instance, each district will receive from Measured Progress three separate Excel spreadsheets, one for each test category. These files will be separately imported. Unfortunately, there is no set formatting standard for these files and they can differ slightly from one another. Column headings may be spelled differently or be located in different columns. Some columns may be added or omitted. Because of these differences, we have written the stored procedure to match students and their scores to your SIS database based on 7 of the headings (see below). These headings do not need to be in any specific column. They just have to exist and be spelled correctly. Before converting each file to csv format, please open each file and check and correct the headings. Also briefly skim over the grid to check for any obvious errors in the data.

ESSENTIAL COLUMN HEADINGS

bdate (the birthday column header must be in 6-digit YYMMDD format- no punctuation)studid (the student ID assigned by SIS)SSID

lname (last name)

fname (first name)

mi (middle initial)

gender

matss/reass/wriss (math, reading, writing scores)

CONVERTING XLS to CSV

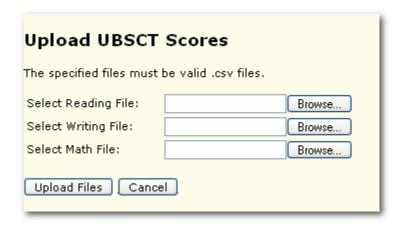
- 1. Open the Excel spreadsheet.
- 2. Use the Save As... menu option to convert the file to csv format (see Figure 1):
 - From the File menu, choose Save As...

- In the Save As window, click the down arrow on the File Type option to activate its drop-down menu.
- Scroll down and select CSV (comma delimited).
- Check the file name and location, then choose Save.

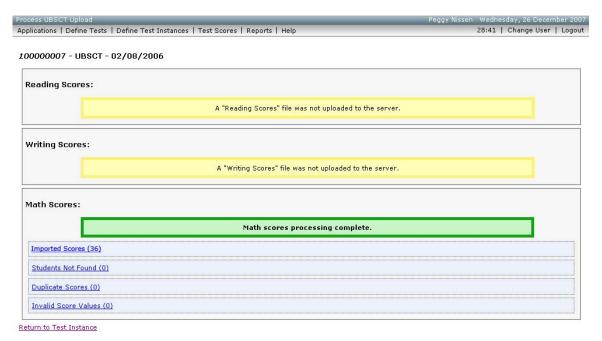
*Note: There are 3 different CSV options in the Save as Type drop-down menu. Only the option highlighted in Figure 1 should be used. It is the highest CSV option in the scroll-down list. The new CSV file will open in Excel the same way the original file did. On the surface, the only visible difference is the absence of green tabs in the cells (conversion to CSV clears all formulas, leaving only the text).

IMPORTING UBSCT FILES

Click on the Upload UBSCT Scores link.



Browse to the location of your UBSCT test scores files and click on Upload Files. Below is an example of a normal results screen after uploading a Math file:



RESULTS SCREEN VARIATIONS

Students Not Found- Check column headings. It's likely that one or more doesn't match.

Duplicate Scores- This occurs if a student has scores for the test instance that you are uploading scores for. **The import utility will not overwrite existing scores.**

Invalid Score Values- This occurs if the number in the score column is invalid or missing.